

# THE MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

STATE HORTICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

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CIRCULAR BULLETIN No. 43.

OCTOBER, 1902.

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## PEACH YELLOWS.

By J. B. S. Norton, State Pathologist.

### NATURE AND SYMPTOMS.

Yellows is a distinct disease, attacking peach trees and also almond, apricot and Japanese plum. The fruit of trees so diseased ripens prematurely, is covered with red spots extending into the flesh, and is usually insipid or bitter. Later, small, abnormally narrow, yellow leaves appear, often in clusters on slender twigs from prematurely developed leaf buds. The trees soon cease bearing, and in a few years die. Yellow foliage is not necessarily a symptom of this disease, but may be due to various forms of starvation, borers, crown gall, etc. Most of the many causes conceived for the disease have been disproved by careful investigation. It certainly is communicable from one tree to another, and is largely spread from nurseries through the use of buds and seeds from diseased trees. It also without doubt spreads from tree to tree in orchards by means of pollen, insects or some unknown method.

### DISTRIBUTION IN MARYLAND.

Yellows occurs in Prince George, Anne Arundel, Queen Anne and Caroline counties, and all of the State north and west of these. It is especially bad in the northern counties, where the peach industry is not well developed, and care has not been taken to destroy diseased trees.

### TREATMENT.

No treatment for yellows has proved at all effective, except the one now generally practiced: Digging up and burning the diseased trees. Thorough watch should be kept, whenever going through the orchards, for the first symptoms, and trees showing premature, red-spotted fruit, or other indications of this disease should be immediately dug up and burned on the spot. It is better to destroy suspected trees than to let them remain. New trees may be planted where the diseased trees were taken from without contracting the disease.



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STATE, HORTICULTURAL DEPARTMENT  
PUBLISHED BY THE STATION  
COLUMBIA WILKINSON 1914

## PEACH CULTURE

BY J. C. WILKINSON, JR.

STATIONER AND PRINTER

The peach is one of the most popular of our fruit trees. It is a native of the Caucasus and has been cultivated in this country since the early days of settlement. The peach is a tree of moderate size, with a spreading habit of growth. The leaves are alternate, ovate, and serrated. The flowers are small, white, and fragrant. The fruit is a fleshy, rounded berry, with a short stalk. The skin is smooth and may be covered with a fine down. The flesh is soft and juicy, and the color may range from white to deep red. The peach is a valuable source of food and is also used for many purposes in the home and in the kitchen.

## DESCRIPTION OF CULTURE

The peach is a tree of moderate size, with a spreading habit of growth. The leaves are alternate, ovate, and serrated. The flowers are small, white, and fragrant. The fruit is a fleshy, rounded berry, with a short stalk. The skin is smooth and may be covered with a fine down. The flesh is soft and juicy, and the color may range from white to deep red. The peach is a valuable source of food and is also used for many purposes in the home and in the kitchen.

## PLANTING

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